IN THE HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA
Constitutional Writ Jurisdiction
Appellate Side

Present :- Hon'ble Justice Rishad Medora

WPA 31474 of 2026

Sri Kartik Sahoo
Vs.
The State of West Bengal & Ors.

For the writ petitioner	**:-**	**Mr. Mukteswar Maity, Adv.** **Ms. Manika Sarkar.**
For the Respondents	**:-**	**Mr. D. N. Roy, Ld. G.P.** **Mr. Dibashis Basu, AGP Adv.** **Ms. Sneha Dutta,** **Mr. Sourav Haldar**
Heard on	**:-**	**30.10.2026**
Judgment on	**:-**	**30.10.2026**

Rishad Medora, J.:-

1. Learned advocate appearing for the petitioner has filed the present writ petition praying for, inter alia, an order directing the respondents to forthwith grant permission for holding Sri Sri Shyamapuja at Mouza Sundarpur from November 8, 2026 to November 10, 2026.

2. Learned advocate appearing for the petitioner submits that by a letter dated September 30, 2026, the Executive Engineer, Contai Irrigation Division had considered the petitioner's application dated September 7, 2026 seeking permission for celebration of Shyamapuja on the open space of the Irrigation and Waterways Departmental Land at Mouza Sundarpur.

3. By the aforesaid letter dated September 30, 2026, the said Executive Engineer, Contai had granted the permission sought by the petitioner, subject to the fulfilment of certain terms and conditions.

4. Subsequently, on or around October 5, 2026, the petitioner addressed a letter to the Officer-in-Charge, Talpati Ghat Coastal -P.S., Purba Medinipur, seeking inter alia, police permission and necessary police posting during the period of Shyamapuja.

5. Learned advocate appearing for the petitioner submits that such request has not yet been considered till date and consequently he has been constrained to approach this Court by filing the present writ petition.

6. Learned advocate representing the State hands over a report dated October 30, 2026 prepared by the Officer-in-Charge, Talpati Ghat Coastal -P.S., Purba Medinipur. The same is taken on record.

7. A copy of the same has been handed over to the learned advocate appearing for the petitioner.

8. From a perusal of such report, it appears that from 2026 onwards, all puja committees such as Durga Puja, Kali Puja, Jagadhatri Puja committees are required to obtain their puja permission through the SAHAJ portal from the concerned Government authorities. This portal was opened for a specified period before Durga Puja for submission of all necessary details. Similarly, the said portal is scheduled to remain operational from 28th October, 2026 to 4th November, 2026 for applying for Kali Puja permission.

9. Learned advocate representing the State fairly submits that if the petitioner were to seek necessary permission through the aforesaid SAHAJ portal, the same will be considered by the relevant authorities.

10. In view of the foregoing, this writ petition is disposed of by granting liberty to the petitioner to file a necessary application on the aforesaid SAHAJ portal by November 4, 2026.

11. If such application is filed by November 4, 2026, the concerned State authorities will consider the same in accordance with law.

12. The petitioner must be intimated of the outcome of his application, if filed, by November 5, 2026, subject to the petitioner having filed his application by November 2, 2026.

13. The writ petition, accordingly stands **disposed of**.

14. Since no affidavit-in-opposition has been called for, allegations in the writ petition are deemed not to have been admitted by the respondents.

15. There will be no order as to costs.

16. Parties to act on the basis of the server copy of this order duly downloaded from the official *website* of this Court.

17. Urgent photostat certified copy of this order, if applied for, be supplied to the parties upon compliance of necessary formalities.

(Rishad Medora, J.)